

Diagnostic uncertainty among critically ill children admitted to the PICU: a multicenter study.

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Diagnostic uncertainty can lead to [diagnostic errors](#), overuse of laboratory and imaging studies, and [delays](#) in appropriate treatment. This study reports that diagnostic uncertainty in the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) was associated with off-hours admission, greater severity of illness, and an atypical presentation. Patients with diagnostic uncertainty had more diagnostic errors in the first 7 days of their PICU stay. 6.6% of patients still had uncertain diagnoses at discharge.